

WEEKLY REPORT
Region 9
Environmental Protection Agency
Week of October 7, 2016
Superfund Division

Highlight of Past Week

Western Brownfields Workshop (San Francisco, CA): Brownfield Programs in Regions 8, 9 and 10 hosted the workshop on September 28-29. Approximately 260 participated; of those there were 51 attendees representing tribes, 77 participants from local or county units of government, 34 participants from state government and 5 representatives from Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development Administration, Coast Guard and Federal Executive Board. The remainder of attendees were EPA staff from the 3 regions, nonprofits, universities and private sector partners such environmental consultants, environmental attorneys and developers. Enrique Manzanilla provided the opening welcome and keynote remarks. The workshop featured topics from transit-oriented development, incorporating sustainability, tribal cultural resources, climate change adaptation, steps to address environmental due diligence and numerous case studies featuring both successes and challenges. (Contact: Noemi Emeric-Ford, x4-1821)

Navajo Resources Development Committee presentation: We provided an update on our uranium mine work to the legislative committee that oversees Navajo EPA and other land and resource agencies. Representatives of the Navajo Office of the President and Vice President attended, along with Navajo EPA and AML. (Contact: Priscilla Tom, x2-3377)

Tronox Abandoned Uranium Mines – Slope Stabilization at the Former Cove Transfer Station: This week, USEPA Region 9 completed construction activities to mitigate surface erosion at the former transfer area located in the Cove/Red Valley Chapter of the Navajo Nation, in eastern Arizona. Since the completion of a site removal action in November 2012, sections of the site slope and other adjoining areas had become highly eroded due to intense rain storms that occur seasonally, creating small channels and gullies throughout much of the site. The erosion repair at the former Cove Transfer Station site included: stabilizing the affected slopes and constructing slope diversion channels; restoring the roadside ditch with rock material; removing dead or dying vegetation; and vegetating the affected slope with seeds. We will remobilize in the spring to perform a site inspection; plant shrubs and trees; and provide irrigation with an on-site water tank to feed a drip irrigation system, until plants are established. (Contact: Randy Nattis, x2-3053 or Chip Poalinelli, x2-3390)

Before and after photos:



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Contact: Yolanda Sanchez, x2-3880 and Yarissa Martinez, x4-1806)



The Navajo Nation Five -Year Plan Community Outreach (Shiprock, NM): Region 9 staff participated in outreach activities at the 2016 Northern Navajo Nation Fair, September 29 -October 2 regarding the 5-Year Plan on addressing uranium contamination on the Navajo Nation. The outreach activity involved disseminating information on how EPA, the Navajo Nation, and other federal partners have made real progress over the past decade to locate and clean-up contaminated structures, access to safe drinking water, and continue to work on AUMs with the highest level of radiation. EPA also attended the Cove Chapter Planning meeting and gave an update the current AUM work in the Cove community. Participating federal agencies and tribal organizations in outreach activities include DOE, AML, and Navajo Birth Cohort Study. (Contact: Priscilla Thomas, x2-3377, Secody Hubbard, x2-3241)

Orange County North Basin: The EPA issued a press release to announce a settlement agreement with the Orange County Water District (OCWD). The agreement commits OCWD to complete an RI/FS for an interim groundwater remedy. The estimated cost of the RI/FS work is \$3 to \$4 million. OCWD is a public agency volunteering to perform the RI/FS and is not a PRP. **Deliberative Process (b) (5)** . (Contact: Wayne Praskins, x2-3181)

Halaco: EPA is meeting with staff and management with DTSC's Hazardous Waste Management Program in Sacramento to discuss the beneficial reuse of Halaco wastes. Deliberative Process (b)

Deliberative Process (b) (5)
here is close to 1 million tons of waste at the site.
(Contact: Wayne Praskins, x2-3181)

Montrose OU-6 Historical Stormwater Pathway, Ecology Control Industries (ECI): (Torrance, CA) On September 6, ECI began hauling DDT-contaminated soil from the ECI property to be disposed of at US Ecology Landfill in Beatty, Nevada. Transportation and disposal of the soil was completed on September 22. Approximately 8,000 cubic yards of soil was disposed of at US Ecology. Within the next month, ECI intends to begin further excavation at the property. (Contact: Tu Nguyen, x2-3443)

Edwards AFB: In a joint letter dated September 30, EPA and the State responded to the Air

Force August 24 letter in which the AF disagreed with the technical and policy arguments we made in two previous letters and rejected our request to restart the groundwater extraction and treatment system (GETS) for the Site 25 TCE plume. **Deliberative Process (b) (5)**

. (Contact: Kevin Mayer, x2-3176)

Border 2020 Arizona-Sonora Goal 4 Task Force Meeting and Training: The Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response Task Force met in Puerto Penasco on Thursday October 6 and discussed training, equipment exchange, sister city emergency plans, WebEOC and heard updates from all the participating agencies. Prior to the Task Force Meeting, over 250 first responders were trained in First Responder Awareness, First Responder Operations, Traffic Incident Command System and other relevant HazMat tech training October 3-6). (Contact: Bill Jones, 619-235-4776)

Risk Management Program Revised Rule, Final Agency Review: We participated in the FAR for the proposed revisions to the Part 68 RMP regulations, concurring without comment. EPA is revising the RMP regulations pursuant to a commitment made in response to EO 13650 "Executive Order on Improving Chemical Facility Safety and Security". (Contact: Jeremy Johnstone, x2-3499)

Deliberative Process (b) (5)

Plains Products Terminals Oil Discharge, Martinez, CA: On October 4, at approximately 1530 hrs, OSC Steve Calanog responded to reports of a crude oil discharge from the Plains Products Terminals facility in Martinez, CA. The approximately 8400 gallon discharge came from a 36 inch pipeline that feeds a 1.5M gallon storage tank within the tank farm facility. **Enforcement**

The release was completely contained within secondary containment and there was no release or threat of release to surface waters. OSC Calanog met with representatives from the responsible party, Plains Products Terminals, the United States Coast Guard and California's Office of Spill Prevention and Response at the site of the discharge. Most of the free standing oil was removed while OSC Calanog was on-scene. Cleanup of impacted soils will be completed by COB 5 October. **Enforcement 7 (A)**

(Contact: Dan Meer, x2-3132)

Significant Items for Next Week

Solar Reserve Crescent Dunes Solar Energy Facility Dedication (Tonopah, NV):

Brownfields management and staff will attend a dedication event at the Crescent Dunes solar energy facility in Tonopah, NV on October 11. The 110 Megawatt solar plant delivers enough electricity from solar energy to power 75,000 homes during peak demand periods, day and night, whether or not the sun is shining. Solar potential maps funded under EPA's Brownfields to Brightfields program helped determine the location for construction of the facility. The project will expend more than \$10 million per year in salaries and operating costs, much of this spent in the region, and it is forecasted to generate more than \$73 million in local and state tax revenues over first 20 years of operation. Other invitees to the event include senators, congressional representatives, state legislatures, heads of various state departments, and the governor, in addition to Nye County officials. (Contact: Lisa Hanusiak, x2-3152)



Brownfields Assessments to Support Transit Oriented Development (Las Vegas and Henderson, NV): Brownfields management and staff will visited planned assessment sites along the Maryland Parkway corridor in Las Vegas and the Boulder Highway corridor in Henderson with Clark County and the City of Henderson, respectively. Clark County received a \$500,000 Brownfields Community-wide Assessment Coalition grant in 2015 to support its revitalization plan to bring transit oriented and mixed use development to a 4 mile segment of the Maryland Parkway, that runs from McCarran International Airport, past the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, through a medical district and towards the downtown Las Vegas strip. The City of Henderson received a \$550,000 Brownfields Community-wide Assessment Coalition grant in 2016 to assess properties along an 8 mile portion of the Boulder Highway, a major thoroughfare connecting Boulder City, Henderson and Las Vegas with many vacant and underutilized properties that once supported auto-related businesses, including dealerships, gas stations, body shops and scrap yards. (Contact: Lisa Hanusiak, x2-3152)

Press Stories, Significant Policy, Regulatory, or Legal Actions (2-3 weeks out)

Grant Announcements

Cooperative Agreement Awarded to Navajo Nation Superfund Program (NSP): EPA R9 awarded two cooperative agreements to the Navajo Nation Superfund Program (NSP). The first cooperative agreement of \$479,769 for FY17 allows for the continued NSP assistance to Region 9. NSP will review data and documents, attend meetings for Navajo Nation site coordination, conduct site visits/inspections, and provide comments for consistency in the CERCLA process on Nation. The second assistance agreement, for \$158,328 for FY17, is for the Contaminated Structures Program. NSP will coordinate and schedule resident and government interactions, review data and documents, and engage in field activities. (Contact: Andrea Manion, x7-4184)

Legislative Engagement

Travel, Training, Public/National Meetings, and Speaking Engagements

National Incident Management Assistance Team: Steve Calanog, Jeremy Johnstone and Rusty Harris-Bishop will travel to Winchester VA October 17-21 for the initial training of EPA's N-IMAT. (Contact: Jeremy Johnstone, x2-3499)

30-60 Day Outlook

Other Information

Mercury Training and Outreach: OSCs Robert Wise and Michelle Rogow conducted mercury response training for approximately 60 first responders and other agency representatives. The training was held at our equipment management facility in Signal Hill. (Contact: Dan Meer, x2-3132)

Fireworks Summit, Signal Hill, CA: On October 11, the EPA Emergency Response Section is hosting a meeting of state and local agencies involved in the confiscation and disposal of fireworks at our equipment management facility in Signal Hill. The California State Fire Marshall will chair this meeting and multiple agencies including county bomb squads and fire departments, FBI, ATF, DTSC and Cal/EPA will participate. EPA is not running this meeting, we were merely asked to provide the venue since our Signal Hill facility is large and centrally located. The first half of the meeting will be government agency only; the second half of the meeting will have representatives of the fireworks industry participating.

Division Director Schedule: Internal Personnel (b) (2)

Internal to Region 9

Confidential Information